

1. (Amended) A tool for lacerating or grasping other objects, the tool comprising:

an outer shaft with an open end and a closed end and an opening located parallel to a longitudinal axis extending from the open end to near the closed end;

an actuator bar with a tip end and an actuation end and a [consistent] constant width, a transition near the tip end resulting in the tip end having a longitudinal offset axis displaced horizontally from the longitudinal axis in a single plane, the actuation end engaging a translation means for translation of the actuator bar relative to the outer shaft, a single radial ridge located near the tip end for engagement with an inner tip; and

the inner tip rotationally engaged to the outer shaft near the closed end and the inner tip having a connected end, the inner tip interengaging the radial ridge with a single curved slot located on an open side where translation of the actuator bar relative to the outer shaft results in rotation of the inner tip relative to the outer shaft.

2. The tool of claim 1, wherein:

the translation means is a hand grip.

3. The tool of claim 1, further comprising:

the outer shaft having a die edge near the closed end and the inner tip having a biting edge, the die edge and biting edge for interacting with objects locatable between the biting edge and the die edge.

4/8. (Amended) The tool of claim 1, further comprising:

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the radial ridge having an upper surface smaller in [area] width than a lower surface
and the curved slot having a first surface smaller in [area] width than a [lower] second
surface.

5/8. (Amended) A tool for interacting with objects, the tool comprising:

an outer shaft with an open end and a closed end and a trough-like opening located
parallel to a longitudinal axis extending from the open end to near the closed end, a
shaft hole and an axle hole located perpendicular to the longitudinal axis through the
outer shaft;

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an actuator bar with a tip end and an actuation end with a slot located therebetween
and [a consistent] the actuator bar having a constant width, a transition near the tip end
resulting in the tip end having a longitudinal offset axis displaced horizontally from the
longitudinal axis in a single plane, the actuation end engaging a translation means for
translation of the actuator bar relative to the outer shaft, a single radial ridge located
near the tip end for engagement with an inner tip; and

the inner tip rotatably attached to the outer shaft near the closed end by a tip axle
through the axle hole, the inner tip having a connected end, the inner tip interengaging
the radial ridge with a single curved slot located on an open side such that translation of
the actuator bar relative to the outer shaft results in rotation of the inner tip relative to
the outer shaft.

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12. (Amended) The tool of claim 8, further comprising:

the radial ridge having an upper surface smaller in [area] width than a lower surface
and the curved slot having a first surface smaller in [area] width than a [lower] second
surface.

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13. The tool of claim 8, wherein:

the translation means is a hand grip.

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14. The tool of claim 8, further comprising:

the outer shaft having a die edge near the closed end and the inner tip having a biting
edge, the die edge and biting edge for interacting with objects locatable between the
biting edge and the die edge.

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15. (Amended) A tool for interacting with objects, the tool comprising:

an outer shaft with an open end, a closed end and a trough-like opening located
parallel to a longitudinal axis extending from the open end to near the closed end, a
shaft hole and an axle hole located perpendicular to the longitudinal axis through the
outer shaft, a die edge circumscribing a tip opening near the closed end for interacting
with an inner tip;

an actuator bar with a tip end and an actuation end having a slot perpendicular to a
longitudinal axis there between, the actuator bar having a [consistent] constant width, a

transition near the tip end resulting in the tip end having a longitudinal offset axis displaced horizontally from the longitudinal axis in a single plane, the actuation end engaging a translation means for translation of the actuator bar relative to the outer shaft in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis, a single radial ridge located near the tip end for engagement with the inner tip; and

the inner tip rotatably attached to the outer shaft near the closed end by a tip axle through the axle hole, the inner tip locatable within a tip opening in a closed position, the inner tip having a connected end opposite a biting end, the inner tip interengaging the radial ridge with a single curved slot located on an open side such that translation of the actuator bar relative to the outer shaft results in rotation of the inner tip relative to the outer shaft.

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16. (Amended) The tool of claim ⁹15, further comprising:

the radial ridge having an upper surface smaller in [area] width than a lower surface and the curved slot having a first surface smaller in [area] width than a [lower] second surface.

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11 ~~20~~. The tool of claim ~~15~~, wherein:

the translation means is a hand grip.

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12 ~~21~~. (Amended) The tool of claim ⁹16, further comprising:

the outer shaft having [a] the die edge near the closed end and the inner tip having [a]

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the biting edge, the die edge and the biting edge for interacting with objects locatable between the biting edge and the die edge.

Other Amendments

In Figs 6,7 and 8, the part number for the trough like opening 68 was labeled to further clarify the Examiner's understanding of this invention. The trough like opening is labeled in Fig. 16 and is disclosed and described on page 7 lines 16 - 18. No new matter is added.

In Fig. 16, label 75 for the longitudinal axis has been added. The longitudinal axis 75 is shown in Figs. 17 and 18. No new matter is added.

In Fig. 13 a hidden line was added to show the larger width of the lower surface 186. No new matter is added.

In the abstract, on line 2, change "consistent" to —constant—.

Remarks

Applicant is filing this response to answer the outstanding official Office Action. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the instant application. Entry of the above amendments and following comments is respectfully requested before such reconsideration.

SPECIFICATION:

Various corrections were made to the specification to correct typographic errors. No new matter was added.

CLAIMS:

1. The Examiner rejected claims 1, 6-8, 11, 12, 16 and 19 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

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